

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
COMPOSITE MEDICAL FACILITY  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 5020)  
New York Road South of Route 9 Intersection  
Plattsburgh  
Clinton County  
New York

HAER No. NY-326-CX

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
COMPOSITE MEDICAL FACILITY  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 5020)

HAER No. NY-326-CX

**Location:** New York Road South of Route 9 Intersection, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

UTM: 18.622240.4948920  
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

**Date of Construction:** 1959

**Architect:** Unknown

**Present Owner:** United States Air Force

**Present Use:** Vacant

**Significance:** The Composite Medical Facility provided total base medical care capabilities integrated in a single building. Space was provided for administration, pathology, pharmacy, physical therapy, radiology, environmental health, surgery, nursing services, flight surgeon clinic, and storage. The hospital was staffed and equipped to provide diagnostic and therapeutic services, military public health services, education and training programs, and support activities to perform its assigned mission. The storage space was for medical material utilized by the hospital and specifically excluded the storage of medical War Readiness Material.

**Project Information:** Building No. 5020 at Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from Federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

Michael Pumphrey  
Deborah Dobson-Brown  
Earth Tech, Inc.  
1461 East Cooley Drive  
Colton, CA 92324

### **Summary Description of Composite Medical Facility (Building No. 5020)**

#### **Layout**

Building No. 5020 is 94,055 square-foot, three-story, flat-roofed, brick veneer building. The building is irregular in plan, and has many offsets, ells, and vestibules. Most windows employed throughout the facility are one-over-one, double-hung units, generally occurring in pairs. The building was designed to house 134 patients and had a full suite of complimentary medical departmental services, including an on-site pharmacy. The interior of the building was not inspected.

#### **Alterations/Additions**

There have been no other major additions or alterations made to the exterior of Building No. 5020.

#### **Function**

Building No. 5020 was designed, built and used exclusively as the Plattsburgh AFB medical/hospital facilities.

#### **Significance**

The importance of medical installations such as the Composite Medical Facility to the overall Strategic Air Command (SAC) mission should not be under estimated. A program as technically intense as the SAC defense deterrent objective was makes it, by its very nature, a labor-intensive endeavor. The United States Air Force had a significant investment in each and every one of it is airmen and officers. Each had a role to play in national security, and thus facilities such as Building No. 5020, wherein military personnel could be maintained in top physical health, was a role vital to the Plattsburgh SAC mission.

#### **Drawings**

Copies of as-built drawings for the Composite Medical Facility, Building No. 5020, are archived at:

Air Force Historical Research Agency/ISA  
600 Chennault Circle  
Maxwell Air Force Base, AL 36112-6424

#### **Sources**

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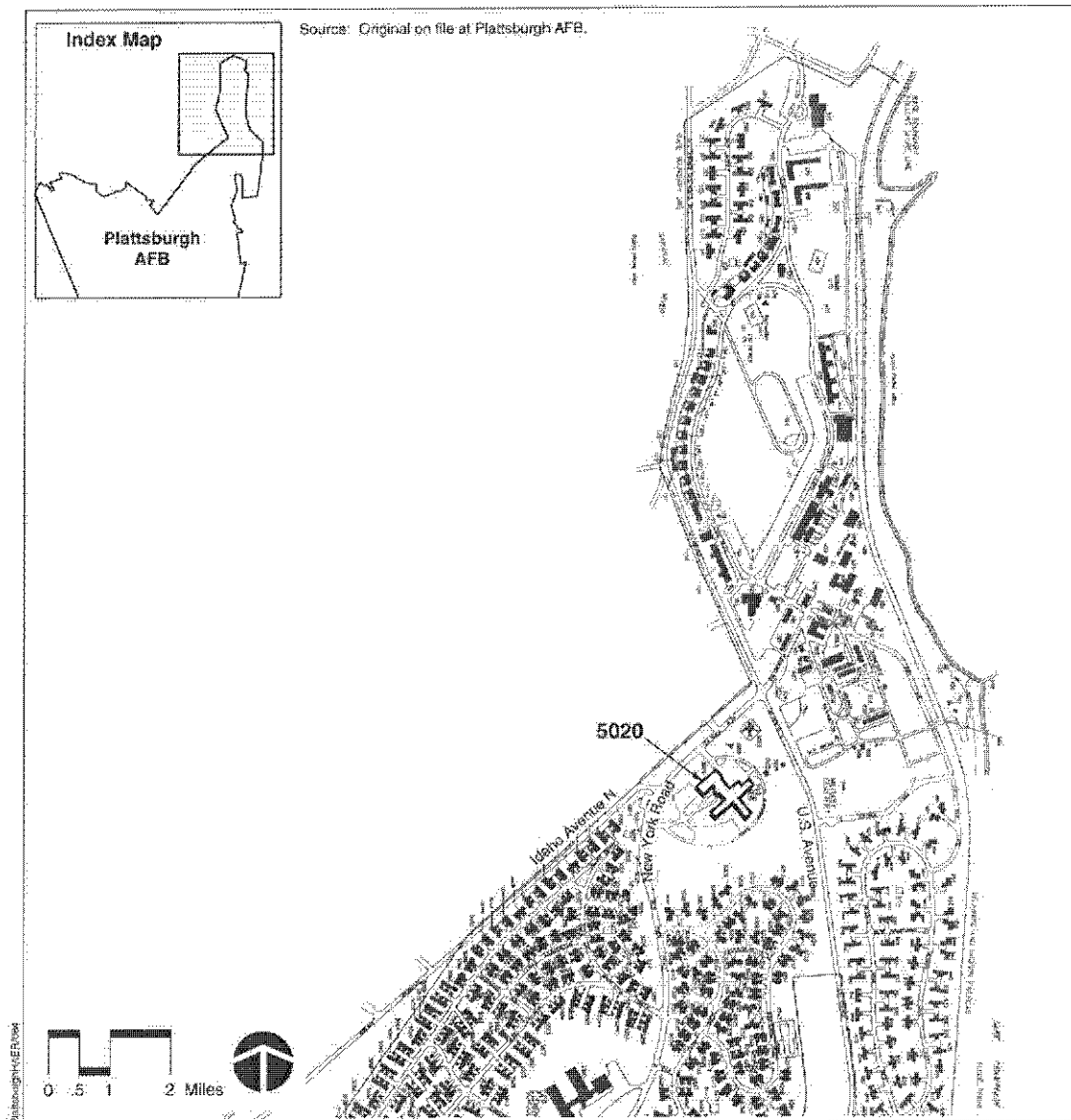
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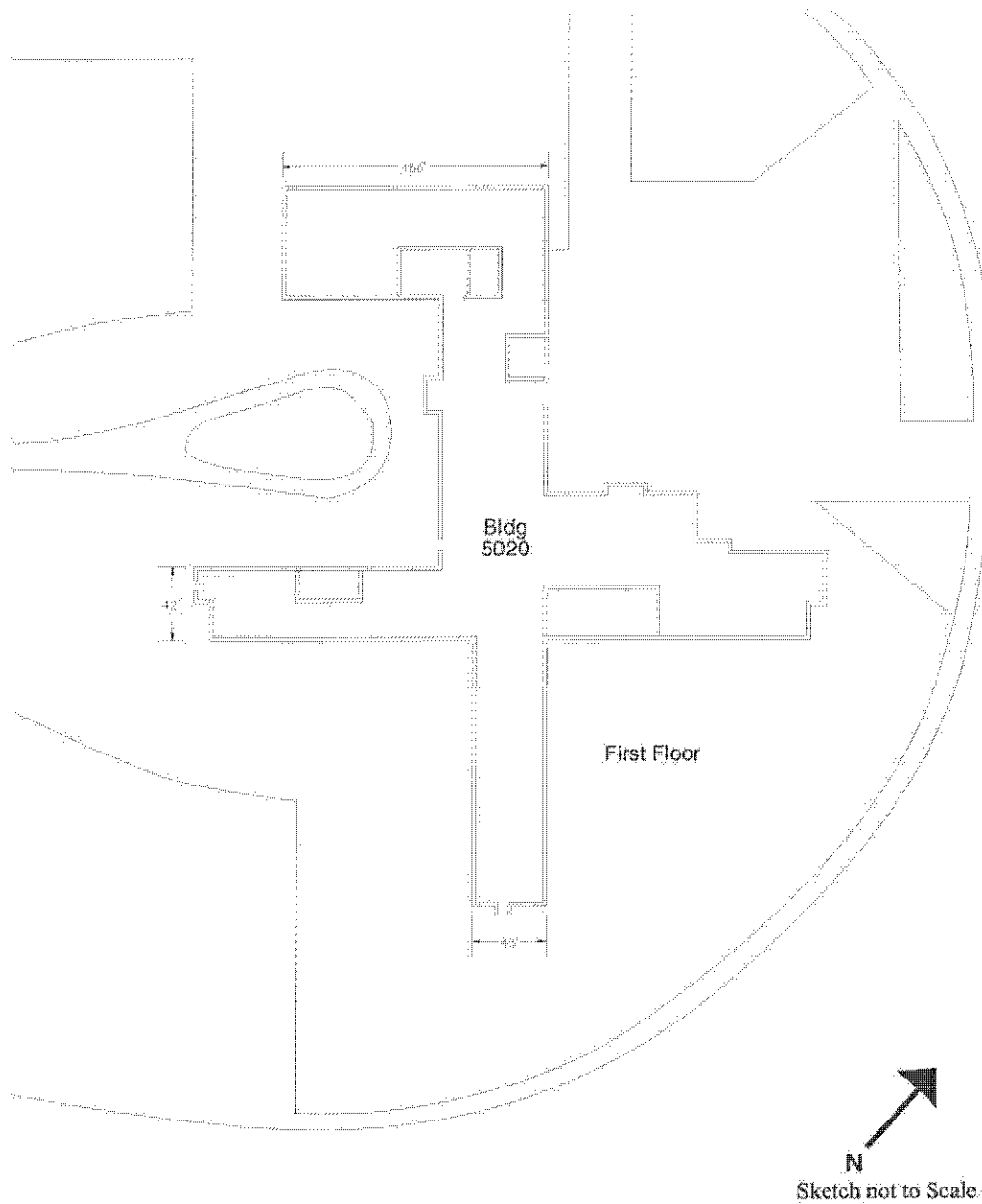
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Location Map for Composite Medical Facility, Building No. 5020  
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SKETCH PLAN - COMPOSITE MEDICAL FACILITY  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 5020)  
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)  
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